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Campen is a little unsatisfactory and vague. For, although he gives a careful statement, of great value to the reader, of the different opinions held by leading geographers upon the point, he ends by leaving his own position ill-defined, and by declaring, rather needlessly, that nothing be here decided but by "actual research." On the whole, we are led to infer that he believes the probabilities are in favor of open water at the pole ; and "yet it is fair to say," he tells us, "that the most practical men in arctic research—such as Sir George Back, Sir Leopold McClintock, Mr. Clements Markham, and especially the late Admiral Osborn—are exceedingly skeptical." It is worth while to note, in passing, that all of these men, who are here rightly cited as the "most practical," favor the Smith Sound route.

Let us not be misunderstood, however, because we cannot agree that Mr. Van Campen makes the best of his own case. It is precisely because he is not a special pleader, as we said in the beginning, that his book is of such lasting value. We repeat that it is one of the best of summaries, for the general reader, of the whole literature of the polar problem. In accuracy, both in his historical and scientific treatment of the questions he discusses, Mr. Van Campen is almost unassailable ; and although the reader must not look for narrative—as Mr. Van Campen rightly takes for granted a general knowledge of the main facts of recent exploration—he will find many passages of the book so eminently readable as to make him anticipate with interest the publication of the second volume. This, we are promised, will contain the story of the old Dutch voyagers.

In a new edition the name of Captain Koldewey should be thus spelled throughout ; in the copy before us the types give it two or more different spellings. Two or three other similar slips are noticeable, but are obviously typographical. We are sorry to see Mr. Van Campen help to perpetuate the error of calling an English navigator *Hendrik* Hudson, because he once accepted employment from a Dutch corporation ; but in this mistake, unfortunately, he has many companions.

7.—*Word for Word from Horace*: The Odes literally versified.
By WILLIAM THOMAS THORNTON, C. B. London : Macmillan & Co. 1878. 12mo, pp. xv.-317.

MR. THORNTON'S translation covers less ground than Francis's or Lord Lytton's Horace ; but it includes the larger part of what,

in this most enjoyable of Latin writers, will bear, for English readers, a literal translation, namely, the three books of the Odes, the Secular Hymn, and also "as many of the Epodes," says Mr. Thornton in his preface, "as I myself greatly care for." Very nearly literal is his version, far more literal than the versions just mentioned, or than Dryden's, or Lyttleton's, or Martin's; and yet, to our feeling, it is fuller of charm than either of these, or indeed than any other that we know. For Mr. Thornton has brought to his task, besides poetic feeling and love for his author, the gifts which we already know in his prose work, and which are essential for the translator—gifts which, we may add, characterized Donne and Pope respectively—the twofold faculties of directness and of ingenuity in expression. He displays, too, a knowledge and skill in the modern ingenuities of rhyme and metre, traits which give a remarkable freshness to his work. The original metres he has not sought, except in a few instances, to preserve; in these, he tells us, he found himself "confronted by difficulties for the most part absolutely insuperable," of which the chief was his rigorous self-restriction to the synonyms of Horace's small vocabulary; and we believe that, if he had spent much labor upon the reproduction of the Alcaic and Sapphic metres, his translation would have missed being what it now is—eminently readable, in spite of its literalness. Take, for instance, the eighth and ninth Odes of Book III. ("Martius cœlebs" and "Donec gratus eram"). These translations—and they are scarcely better than his average rendition—are in the best sense artist's work. From the first sentence of his preface, we feel that we have in this writer a master of words; and we do not lose the conviction when, occasionally, we meet some of those gritty phrases, those asperities of diction, which are scarcely evitable by the translator who is bent upon faithfulness. And to the present taste for literal translations, Mr. Thornton has here, without refining at all upon the provinces and functions of the translator, given a really noteworthy response.

8.—*From Egypt to Japan.* By HENRY M. FIELD, D. D. New York: Scribner, Armstrong & Co. 1877.

Books of travel that take us over familiar ground have to be largely subjective. Personal incident and reflection are the only possible novelties. It is the traveler himself that charms us, and he may go where he will. When Dr. Johnson sets out on a tour, taking Boswell with him, it matters little whether they go to the Heb-